



## United States Attorney's Office Western District of Pennsylvania

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### CHEMICAL COMPANY MANAGER FACES FRAUD CHARGES

United States Attorney Mary Beth Buchanan announced today, February 22, 2007, that Robert Wandler of Waukesha, Wisconsin, has been indicted by a federal grand jury in Pittsburgh on charges of mail fraud, wire fraud, conspiracy, and interstate travel in aid of racketeering.

The sixteen-count indictment, which was returned on February 14, 2007 and unsealed today, named Wandler, age 46, of Waukesha, Wisconsin.

According to Ms. Buchanan, Robert Wandler was the product manager of Sigma Aldrich's Rare Chemical Library division in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The indictment alleges that Wandler was paid kickbacks by Timothy Heffner who was the sole shareholder and owner of BioTechnology Corporation of America. Heffner through BCA paid kickbacks to Wandler to increase BCA's sales to that company. BCA is alleged to have received approximately \$4.4 million in gross revenues from Sigma Aldrich during the period when Heffner paid kickbacks and bribes to Wandler.

It further alleges that Wandler committed a related fraud by causing the false invoicing of certain products valued at approximately \$1.8 million through BCA which Wandler never delivered to Sigma Aldrich.

Assistant United States Attorney Paul E. Hull, who presented the case to the grand jury, indicated that the law provides for a maximum total sentence of 144 years in prison, a fine of \$3,750,000.00, or both. Under the Federal Sentencing Guidelines, the actual sentence imposed would be based upon the seriousness of the offenses and the prior criminal history, if any, of the defendant.

The Internal Revenue Service - Criminal Investigation, the United States Postal Inspection Service, Northern Regional Police, Pennsylvania Attorney General, Shaler Police Department, and Ross Police Department conducted the investigation leading to the indictment in this case.

An indictment is only a charge and is not evidence of guilt. A defendant is presumed innocent and is entitled to a fair trial at which the government must prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

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